



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2008

Contact: Linda McCandless, llm3@cornell.edu, 607-254-5137

Cornell hosts ninth International Symposium on Integrating Canopy, Rootstock and Environmental Physiology in Orchard Systems

By Joe Ogrodnick

Tree fruit scientists from around the world met in Geneva Aug. 4-8 for the ninth International Symposium on Integrating Canopy, Rootstock and Environmental Physiology in Orchard Systems. The International Society for Horticultural Sciences (ISHS) led the symposium at venues on the campuses of Cornell's New York State Agricultural Experiment Station and Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

In keeping with tradition, the participants of three working groups of the ISHS pome and stone fruit section (the rootstock breeding and evaluation group, the orchard and plantation systems working and the environmental physiology group) joined for a common symposium focused on the complex interaction of rootstock, canopy architecture, training and pruning, and environmental physiology.

More than 230 researchers from 35 countries gathered for the ISHS symposium, the first in eastern North America. In all, 210 papers—79 oral and 131 posters—were presented.

"Collectively, these research reports provided substantial information on recent advances in fruit science and culture that will ultimately benefit fruit growers and fruit consumers worldwide, said Terence Robinson, professor of horticultural sciences at the Geneva Experiment Station and symposium convener. "This symposium, as did the previous eight meetings of the orchard systems working group, will lead to dramatic changes in orchard systems, rootstocks and management."

A team of Cornell scientists organized the event with the assistance of the Geneva Experiment Station's communications services department and field research unit.

Symposium participants also took technical tours of the station, viewing field plots for cherry systems, cherry rootstocks, apple rootstocks, apple orchard systems, the USDA's apple germplasm repository, and physiology research plots. They also toured the fruit industry in Wayne County.

"For the past 20 years it has been the dream of the local organizing committee to host our many colleagues and friends from around the world at a symposium at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station," said Robinson. "The meeting by all accounts was a resounding success, and the camaraderie and friendship between the various participants from the 35 countries was clearly evident. We were especially proud to have had the opportunity to showcase the station and the fruit growers of New York state. Many participants agreed that Cornell's Experiment Station is among the top fruit stations in the world."

###



Search all **NYSAES** press releases



Last Modified: October 30, 2008
Comments to: [webfeedback](#)



WELCOME
9th INTERNATIONAL
ORCHARD SYSTEMS SYMPOSIUM
August 4 - 8, 2008 Geneva, NY

